ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A method for arbitrating access to a data bus among subscribers or bus devices (Tn 1, Tn 2, ...), wherein the bus devices are coupled by at least one arbitration ring (12; 38, 40, 42, 44, 46, 48). The method comprises the following steps: a) requesting access by a first bus device; b) checking whether a first signal, which indicates that the arbitration ring is enabled, is present at an input (16) of the first bus device; c) if the first signal is present, outputting (18) a second signal by the first bus device; d) checking whether, at the end of a predetermined time period, the first signal is still present at the input (16) of the first bus device; and e) if the first signal is still present at the end of the predetermined time period, accessing the data bus by the first bus device.